

M A Y

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

MAY MEETING

A SPECIAL EVENT!

Date: Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 & 8:30 p.m.
Place: Morrison Auditorium

"MASTERS OF THE CONGO JUNGLE"

Through the generosity of the Mzuri Safari Club of San Francisco, the Academy is fortunate enough to bring the membership two showings of this engrossing and beautiful natural history color film produced by the International Scientific Foundation of Belgium and presented under the auspices of His Majesty, King Leopold III.

Two years were devoted to the shooting of this rare film in the wildest reaches of the Congo. It is one of the few full length feature films which attempts to give a scientifically true picture of the animal kingdom. SATURDAY REVIEW had this to say: "As travelogue alone, this movie would be superb. . . Intrepid and dedicated are the words for the men who discovered and made this film. . . here is the Congo as it has existed through the centuries, recorded as authentically as possible under the circumstances, and with fitting dignity."

Academy hosts for this unique evening are Dr. Edward S. Ross and the Staff of the Department of Entomology. Dr. Ross will leave San Francisco June 25 for tropical Asia and will brief Academy members on his plans for this forthcoming collecting and photographing expedition.

It is possible that the 8:30 showing may take full advantage of Morrison Auditorium's limited facilities. The overflow crowd will be invited to enjoy Morrison Planetarium's new show, "DO IT YOURSELF" ASTRONOMY".

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"WHAT HOLDS THE UNIVERSE TOGETHER?" will continue through May 14.

Beginning May 16: "DO IT YOURSELF" ASTRONOMY". As a hobby, astronomy offers a great variety of interesting activities. This show suggests many of the rewards, methods and delights available to amateur astronomers.

Shows are given daily, Tuesday through Sunday, at 3:30 and 8:30 p.m., with special showings at 11:00, 12:30 (budget matinees) and 2:00 on Saturdays, and on Sundays at 2:00 p.m.. No performances all day Monday or on Tuesday evenings. (Adults, 75¢, Juniors, 40¢)

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"THE SULUS: Islands, People, Seas". 33 oil sketches by Lucie Palmer. In Lovell White Hall of Man and nature, April 30 through May 14.

"Photos of the proposed Pt. Reyes National Seashore Area" by Philip Hyde, eminent California photographer, who has done extensive work for the Sierra Club and whose pictures have appeared in PACIFIC DISCOVERY. Lovell White Hall. Through May 14.

"THE BEGINNINGS OF FLIGHT", the William J. Hammer Collection of Aeronautical Photographs, in Lovell White Hall, May 21 through June 15.

"HAWAIIAN BIRDS", black and white and color photos by William V. Ward of Honolulu. Lovell White Hall, May 15 through June 15. (Admission free)

"SCIENCE IN ACTION"

Monday nights, 7:00 p.m., KRON-TV, Channel 4

May 1: "Story of the Bible", with Dr. Jack Finegan, Pacific School of Religion.

May 8: "Fiber Optics", with Dr. Narinder Kapany, Director of Optics Technology.

May 15: "Cancer Immunology", presented in cooperation with the American Cancer Society. Victor Richards, M.D., Presbyterian Medical Center.

May 22: "Sounds of the Planets" with Dr. William C. Erickson, Convair Scientific Research.

May 29: "Tidepool Life", with Dr. Earl S. Herald, California Academy of Sciences.

NEWS and NOTES

W.I. Follett and Dr. Robert T. Orr of the Academy staff are featured contributors to a recent issue of SYSTEMATIC ZOOLOGY, published by the Society of Systematic Zoology. The entire issue, Volume 9, Numbers 3 & 4, is devoted to a symposium: The Biogeography of Baja California and Adjacent Seas. Mr. Follett's article is entitled "The Fresh-water Fishes-- Their Origins and Affinities", and Dr. Orr's, "An Analysis of the Recent Land Mammals". Non-members of the Society may secure copies at a cost of \$2.00 from the Editor, Dr. Libbie H. Hyman, American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, New York.

The May meeting of the Astronomy Section is scheduled for Wednesday evening, May 31, at 7:30, and will feature a new astronomy film, "UNIVERSE", an award winner at both the Cannes and Stratford, Canada Film Festivals. General discussion will follow the showing, and (weather permitting) an observation session with the telescopes.

Mr. Jay A. Haman, Burlingame, California, has joined the staff of the Student Section on a part-time basis as Field Biologist, and will assume full-time duties during the summer. He accompanied 12 members of the Section during their recent 9-day collecting and observing trip in the area of McAllister Wash., Sonora Desert, Yuma County, Arizona. Mrs. John Weaver, Supervisor of the Section, was also a member of the expedition. They have reported that the collecting on the trip was singularly successful.

Dr. Edward S. Ross has been appointed Lecturer in Entomology and Research Associate in the Department of Entomology and Parasitology at the University of California at Berkeley. According to the wording of the appointment, it is "to formalize the long-standing association of Dr. Ross with the Department. . . and to foster the relationship between the Department and the California Academy of Sciences."

Through the knowledge and "know how" of Alvin Gundred, Superintendent of the Instrument Shop, Morrison Auditorium now boasts as

fine a sound and speaker system as any in the Bay Area. Using only materials at hand or readily available, he has created a columnar bank of 6 eight-inch speakers on both sides of the Auditorium which compresses the sound, keeps it off the ceiling, and at the same time, directs and spreads it throughout the audience.

This particular system was perfected in Europe and is used there extensively in cathedrals and opera houses. Learning of it, and becoming more than casually interested, Mr. Gundred - at a minimum cost - was able to create such a system for use at the Academy. One listen, and you'll notice the difference!

Dr. Robert C. Miller has received a letter from the Vice-Grand Chamberlain of Japan, Mr. Shuichi Inada, expressing His Majesty, the Emperor's pleasure in having received some Academy scientific publications in the field of marine biology. The letter also expressed His Majesty's gratitude for a color motion picture of tide-pool life in Monterey Bay which was delivered recently to the Imperial Palace by Benjamin Draper, Executive Producer of "Science in Action", who has been travelling in the Orient in connection with next summer's Pacific Science Congress.

The letter read, in part: "His Majesty. . . wishes me to convey to you and Mr. (Allyn G.) Smith and all other persons concerned an expression of his warm thanks for your kind gift. . . and to assure you that the film will long be useful for his further studies of marine biology."

Dr. Alan E. Leviton, Department of Reptiles and Amphibians, has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Zoology, Agra, India.

Volunteer help is needed to man (or woman) the Academy's display which will be part of the Marin Art and Garden Fair in Ross, California being held June 30 through July 5. The booth will extol the advantages of membership in the Academy and at the same time encourage new subscribers for PACIFIC DISCOVERY. If any members feel they can give several hours in presenting the Academy to the public, they are invited to call Don Greame Kelley at BAYview 1-5100, or at his home in San Anselmo, GLENwood 3-2395. We will be grateful for your cooperation.

Meet the Staff



ERNEST ROOK'S interest in both biology and art when a child was sharpened when his family moved to a 50-acre unspoiled wooded tract outside Portland, Oregon. There he was able to observe, collect and sketch, which, in a large measure, may account for his notable success as Art Director for the Academy's prize-winning television program, "Science in Action", now 11 years old.

In choosing his majors in school, Ernie seesawed back and forth between biology and art, but cast the die specifically at the University of California at Berkeley by choosing the latter.

During the war, he shipped out in the Pacific with the Merchant Marine and was headed for similar service in the Atlantic, via New York, when war ended. He then took a job with the World Publishing Company as Assistant Art Director, moved on to Alfred Knopf, Inc., in the same capacity, all the while pursuing such side-lines as the illustration of children's books and the designing of various exhibits at the Museum of Science and Industry.

He returned to the Bay Area in 1948 and added a new facet to his career by becoming an interior decorator. A job at Station KRON, which currently telecasts "Science in Action", led to his present position at the Academy in January, 1955. The results of his imagination and lively interest have been obvious to viewers since.

Outside his busy work schedule, Ernie maintains a continued fascination with antique home furnishing and antique and contemporary music. Though they are often difficult to solve, he finds the weekly problems of "S in A" a real challenge. "We have to learn to communicate in new and exciting ways," he says, "and television is a wonderfully fertile field in which to do it."

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Recent Scientific Publications of the
California Academy of Sciences

Occasional Papers

"Description of a New Species of Snake of the Colubrid Genus Gyalopion from the State of Zacatecas, Mexico". Alan E. Leviton and Benjamin H. Banta. No. 26, March 31, 1961. 25¢

"The Generic Allocation of Hypsiglena slevini Tanner (serpentes: Colubridae)". Alan E. Leviton and Wilmer W. Tanner. No. 27, June 15, 1960. 25¢

"A New Species of Megomphix from California". Allyn G. Smith. No. 28, November 1, 1960. 15¢

"Additional Fungi from the Galápagos and Other Pacific Coastal Islands Collected During the Templeton Crocker Expedition, 1932". William Bridge Cooke and Lee Bonar. No. 29, January 30, 1961. 25¢

Proceedings:

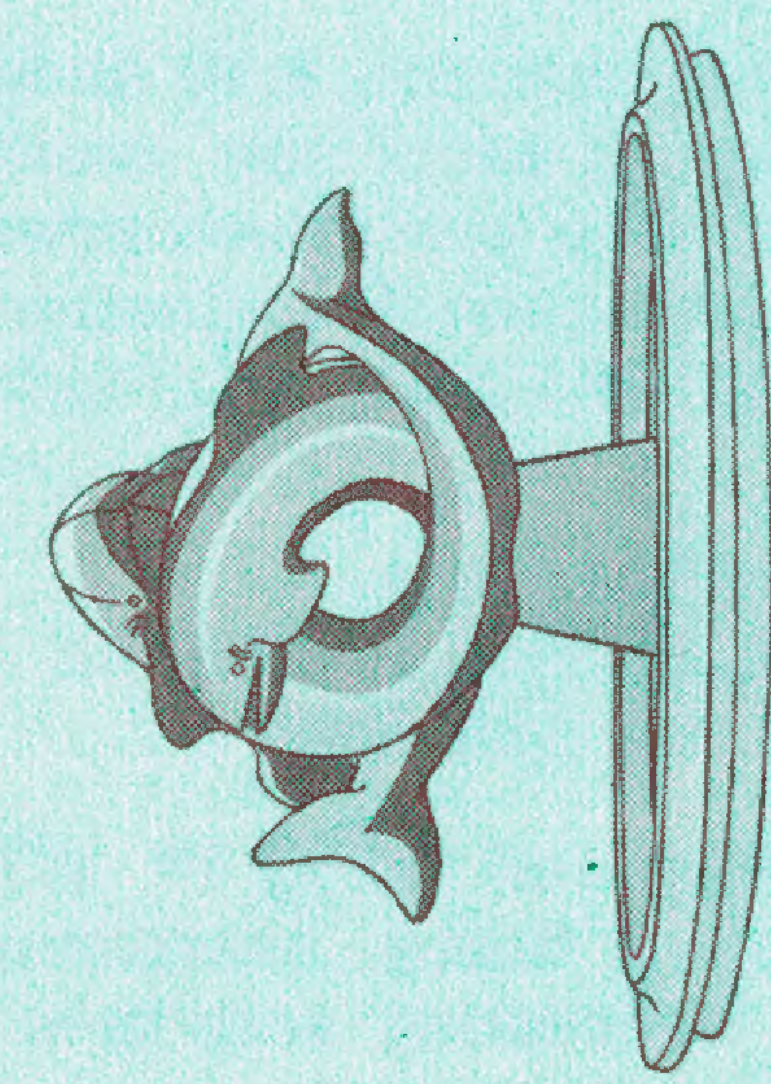
"First Records of the Echeneidid Fish Remilegia australis (Bennett) From California, with Meristic Data". W. I. Follett and Lillian J. Dempster. Vol XXXI, No. 7., September 30, 1960. 75¢

"Investigations in the Natural History of Baja California". Ira L. Wiggins. Vol XXX, No. 1. September 30, 1960. 75¢

"West American Species of the Bivalved Gastropod Genus Berthelinia". A. Myra Keen and Allyn G. Smith. Vol XXX, No. 2, March 20, 1961. 50¢

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